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COMPLETE SULFURIC ACID PLANT HIT SUPPLY SHORTAGE AT FERTILIZER PLANT

PLANT READY 2 YEARS EARLY -- Sofia, Izgrev, 22 Dec 50

To celebrate Stalin's 71st birthday, the fitters engaged in the construction of the Sulfuric Acid Plant of the Stalin Fertilizer Plant project have completed the entire installation, and the sulfuric plant is ready for operation. This part of the project has thus been completed 2 years ahead of schedule and is the first to be in operation.

The production of the sulfuric acid plant will bring many advantages to the countries chemical industry. Copper sulfate and other chemicals will now be, produced domestically, which will save considerable amounts of foreign currency.

REVEAL SUPPLY SHORTCOMINGS AT PLANT PROJECT -- Sofia, Izgrev, 24 Dec 50

A bureaucratic attitude still prevails in some quarters in connection with the supply of materials for the Stalin Fertilizer Plant project. Thus, 5,000 meters of drill requested from the State Supply Administration to cover the straw mattresses of 1,100 workers have been refused by that organization because such large quantities of the material had not been envisaged in previous orders. As a result, workers are sleeping directly on straw or have to be provided with duck mattresses.

In spite of priority given to trains directed to the project, some of them are still unduly delayed. A shipment of oxygen bottles dispatched from the Marshal Tolbukhin State Industrial Enterprise in Burgas on 22 November 1950 reached the plant only on 6 December, whereas a shipment of dies and instruments that left Sofia on 6 December had not reached the plant as late as 20 December. However, considerable efforts are being made at the plant railroad station to over-. come the excessive accumulation of materials and, by now, most of the goods are unloaded speedily.

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Some enterprises are not giving sufficient care and attention to the shipments. The 50 dump cars for the narrow-gange industrial line dispatched by the 23 Dekemvri Plant have been found defective. The rims were deficient, and the cars had to be withdrawn from circulation immediately.

The workers' housing projects and some administration and industrial buildings cannot be completed because of the shortage of window glass. The preliminary order provided for 3,800 square meters of glass, which have already been furnished, but the new, condensed construction charts require about 11,000 square meters. The window glass was requested from the Ministry of Construction on 13 December 1950, but as yet no answer has been received from that ministry.

Quilts and sheets for workers have not been furnished in sufficient numbers. The stores of the Ministry of Internal Trade do not have the required quantity of sheets at ceiling prices.

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